

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 27, of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Although the examples provided herein utilize a genotypic database that includes fifteen mouse strains, it will be appreciated that the methods of the present invention allow of the use of any number of different types of genetic information. For example, suitable genotypic databases include databases that have various types of gene expression data from platform types such as spotted microarray (microarray), high-density oligonucleotide array (HAD), hybridization filter (filter) and serial analysis of gene expression (SAGE) data. Another example of a genetic database that can be used is a DNA methylation database. For details on a representative DNA methylation database, see Grunau *et al.*, "MethDB- a public database for DNA methylation data," Nucleic Acids Research, *in press* 29: 270-274, 2001; or the URL: <http://genome.imb-jena.de/public.html>.